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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF CHANDRIKA SAIDAPET KUMAR APPLICATION NO:

FILED:

FOR: CLONING AND CHARACTERIZATION OF 5 FLANKING REGIONS OF A HUMAN AGGRECANASE-1 GENE

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of January 22, 2007 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on March 22, 2007. A two-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$450 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 104 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: May 22, 2007

Thomas J. Digby Attorney for Applicant

Reg. No. L0242

Phone No. (617) 871-3224